CLAIMS

1.   Method of controlling memory allocation in a computer system (1) comprising physical memory (3), at least one storage device (7,9,10) and at least one processing unit (2) and arranged to implement virtual memory, which computer system is capable of enabling at least two processes associated with respective instances (14,17) of application programs to be running, only one active process being enabled to receive input from a user at any one time, comprising selecting at least one of the processes to be at least partially transferred from physical memory (3) to a storage device (7,9,10), **characterised in that** processes are selected by monitoring which processes have been inactive for longer than a pre-determined time interval (ΔT_1).

2.   Method according to the pre-amble of claim 1, **characterised by** selecting a process after determining that more than a pre-determined interval of time (ΔT_2) has elapsed since creation of the process.

3.   Method according to claim 1 or 2, comprising determining a respective share of processing capacity of at least one of the processing unit(s) (2) dedicated to running each selected process, and initiating the at least partial transferral of only those selected processes of which the share lies below a pre-determined level (Th_2).

4.   Method according to any one of claims 1-3, comprising determining a fraction of processing capacity of the processing unit(s) (2) being used, and initiating transferral of one or more of the selected processes only if the fraction lies below a pre-determined maximum (Th_1).

5.   Method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the step of selecting is carried out irrespective of how much of the physical memory (3) is available for additional processes.

6.   Method according to claim 5, wherein the step of selecting is repeatedly carried out.

7.   Computer system, comprising physical memory (3), at least one storage device (7,9,11) and at least one processing unit (2), and arranged to implement virtual memory, which computer system is capable of executing at least two processes associated with respective instances of application programs (14,17), and configured to enable only one active process to receive input from a user at any one time, wherein the computer system is configured to select at least one of the processes to be at least partially transferred from physical memory to a storage device, **characterised in that** the computer system is configured to select processes by monitoring which processes have been inactive for longer than a pre-determined time interval (ΔT_1).

8.   Computer system according to the pre-amble of claim 7, **characterised in that** the computer system is configured to select a process after determining that more than a pre-determined interval of time (ΔT_2) has elapsed since creation of the process.

9.   Computer program product, having thereon means, when run on a computer system (1), for enabling the computer system to carry out a method according to any one of claims 1-6.